

REMARKS

This Amendment is fully responsive to the final Office Action dated December 10, 2009, issued in connection with the above-identified application. A request for continued examination (RCE) accompanies this Amendment. Claims 3-6 and 8-14 are pending in the present application. With this Amendment, claim 3 has been amended, and claims 4 and 8-14 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments made to the claims. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 3 and 4 have been objected to due to minor informalities. Specifically, the Examiner objects to the phrase “a other,” and suggests that the phrase be replaced with the phrase “an other.” Claim 4 has been canceled thereby rendering the above objection to that claim moot. Additionally, claim 3 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the objection to claims 3 and 4 is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the written description requirements under U.S. patent law. Claim 4 has been canceled thereby rendering the above rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, to that claim moot.

In the Office Action, claims 3 and 4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soya (Japanese Publication No. 0507725, hereafter “Soya”) in view of Ineson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,334,897, hereafter “Ineson 1”), and further in view of Bosman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,254,892, hereafter “Bosman”).

Claim 4 has been canceled thereby rendering the above rejection to that claim moot. Additionally, the Applicants have amended independent claim 3 in order to more clearly distinguish the present invention from the cited prior art. Independent claim 3 (as amended) recites *inter alia* the following features:

“[a]n enclosed motor, comprising:...

a cover member provided to close an other end opening of said metallic motor casing;
and

a connector body integrally formed of a resin so as to close the other end opening of said metallic motor casing from outside of said cover member,

wherein said cover member is formed integrally with said stator using a resin for integrally forming said stator, and is formed so as to integrally hold a connector pin, a portion on a distal end side of which is arranged in said connector body when said connector body is molded, and a proximal end portion of said connector pin serving as a terminal for connecting an end portion of a coil in said stator, and the terminal is located on an outside in an axial direction of a bobbin on which said coil in said stator is wound, and is provided on an inner peripheral side of the bobbin along an end surface of the axial direction of the bobbin, and the portion on the distal end side of the connector pin which is arranged in said connector body is provided so as to extend on the outer periphery side of the bobbin along an end surface in the axial direction of the bobbin. (Emphasis added).

The features emphasized above in independent claim 3 are fully supported by the Applicants' disclosure (see e.g., Fig. 1). The present invention (as recited in independent claim 3) is distinguishable from the cited prior art in that a terminal (that is, the proximal end portion of the connector pin) is located on an outside in an axial direction of the bobbin on which the coil in the stator is wound, and is provided on the inner peripheral side of the bobbin along an end surface of the axial direction of the bobbin. Additionally, a (extended) portion on the distal end side of the connector pin (which is arranged in the connector body) is provided so as to extend on the outer periphery side of the bobbin along the end surface in the axial direction of the bobbin.

An important feature of the present invention (as recited in independent claim 3) is that the terminal portion of the connector pin is located at the outer portion of the axial direction of the bobbin, and also located at the inner periphery side of the bobbin along the end surface of the axial direction of the bobbin. No such configuration of terminal portion of the connector pin is disclosed or suggested by the cited prior art.

In the Office Action, although the Examiner relies on the combination of Soya, Ineson I and Bosman for disclosing or suggesting all the features recited in independent claim 3, the Examiner relies primarily on Bosman for disclosing or suggesting the claimed "terminal" of the present invention.

However, in Bosman, the terminal of the connector pin is extended on the outer periphery of the bobbin. By contrast, in the present invention (as recited in independent claim 3) it is "the (extended) portion on the distal end side" of the connector pin that is extended on the outer periphery side of the bobbin.

That is, in the present invention (as recited in independent claim 3), both the terminal portion on the proximal end side and the extended portion on the distal end side (i.e., of the connector pin) are located along the end surface of the axial direction of the bobbin. Thus, the present invention (as recited in independent claim 3) has the advantage that the height in an axial direction relative to the flange surface 50a for fitting the motor is sustained. No such features or advantages of the present invention (as recited in independent claim 3) are provided by Bosman.

As noted above, neither Soya nor Ineson 1 is relied on by the Examiner for disclosing or suggesting the features of the claimed “terminal” of the present invention (as recited in independent claim 3). Regardless, after a detailed review of the Soya and Ineson 1, the references fail to overcome the deficiencies noted above in Bosman.

Accordingly, no combination of Soya, Ineson 1 and Bosman would result in, or otherwise render obvious, the features of independent claim 3 (as amended).

In the Office Action, claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soya, Ineson 1 and Bosman, and further in view of Ineson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,455,973, hereafter “Ineson 2”); claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soya, Ineson 1 and Bosman, and further in view of Chol et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,406,747, hereafter “Chol”); claims 8, 9 and 12-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda Rukku (Japanese Publication No. 59138387, hereafter “Honda”) in view of Nidec (Japanese Publication No. 04061454, hereafter “Nidec”); and claims 10 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honda and Nidec, and further in view of Bosman.

As noted above, claims 4 and 8-14 have been canceled thereby rendering the above rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) to those claims moot. Additionally, claims 5 and 6 depend from independent claim 3. As noted above, Soya, Ineson 1 and Bosman fail to disclose or suggest all the features recited in independent claim 3 (as amended). Additionally, Ineson 2 and Chol fail to overcome the deficiencies noted above in Soya, Ineson 1 and Bosman. Accordingly, no combination of Soya, Ineson 1 and Bosman with Ineson 2 or Chol would not result in, or otherwise render obvious, claims 5 and 6 at least by virtue of their dependencies from independent claim 3.

In light of the above, the Applicants submit that all the pending claims are patentable over the prior art of record. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections presented in the outstanding Office Action, and pass the present application to issue.

Additionally, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to resolve any remaining issues in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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